Vol. 5 No. 10

Niagara News

March 6 1975

NIAGARA COLLEGE ... and Technol ... RESOURC... CENTRE

Student charges 'Rape of pride'

By JENNEY VINNICK

Charges that the college administration is trying to take over the Hotel Club are being made by club president Debbie Brunton.

"The Hotel Club is being raped—not of body but rather of pride, self-esteem and self-accomplishment," Miss Brunton said in a prepared statement.

The club president said she received a memo from Derrick Barnett, co-ordinator, Hotel and Food Services Management, which said in future, if the club wished tol use the college facilities, the administration "would have to be in full charge."

Each year the Club puts on a Christmas and an international dinner. These have been run successfully for the past five years, the statement said.

A student committee is formed, and students act as department heads in the kitchen, dining-room and bar. They do everything, Miss Brunton said, from forecasting food and beverage sales to washing the last dirty pot.

Now the administration, Miss Brunton said, "wants to strip the Club of these duties and be in full command of selection and menu planning, food and beverage purchasing and deciding which members are to work where."

Miss Brunton said this way the students will learn nothing and "will no longer be able to be proud of the fact that they did everything themselves."

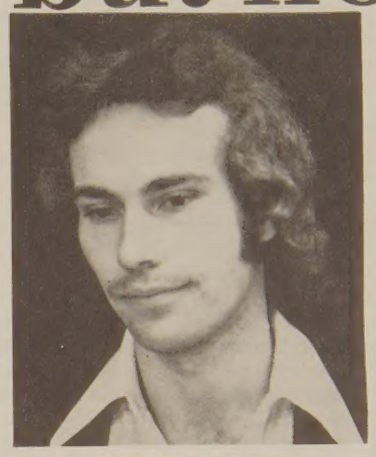
In the statement, Miss Brunton said she tried to reach a compromise with Mr. Barnett saying the Club would be happy to have a teacher offer guidance but, according to Mr. Barnett, "there can be no compromise. It has to be done administration's way or it will not be done at all, on these premises."

"Students show self-initiative and an interest to 'cut the strings' and what happens?" the statement said. "Their hands are slapped like a child's and they are talked down to saying, 'no, no, no. You must do as daddy says or you will be punished.' "

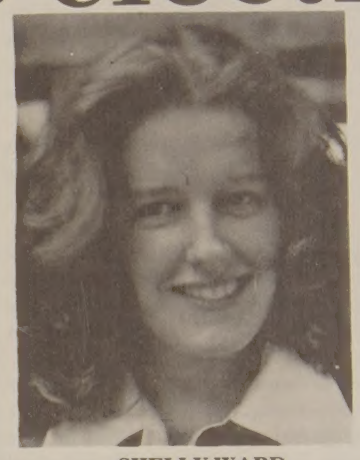
"We are being punished," M iss Brunton said. "Niagara College is leasing one of the finest facilities in Niagara Falls. We realize that our club is a separate entity from the Hotel and Foods program but we are still students of Niagara College. However, the administration won't give us a break," Miss Brunton said.

The Club has a 65 student membership from the Tourism as well as Hotel and Food program. Both programs are held at the Sheraton Foxhead.

Election Day — but no election

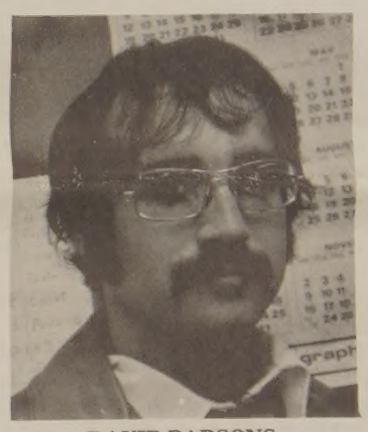


DENNIS REEVES
president
"Try awfully damn hard"



SHELLY WARD
vice-president of public relations
"SAC should be given a chance."

WALLY WINN
vice-president athletics
"I hope the students come to me."



DAVID PARSONS
Convener of clubs
"Activity fee should be compulsory."

Five students were elected by acclamation Feb. 26 and the Niagara Student Administrative Council election scheduled for March 6 was cancelled. This is the second successive year that most main council seats have been filled by acclamation. Several positions still open will be filled by appointment probably in September.

by CHRISTA KIRKEY

Five students were running for eight SAC positions, at press time, to be elected March 6. Or was it three, or six, or eight? At this point, seven hours before nominations close, it's anybody's guess.

Jerry Dracz, SAC president, said he feels the survey to be taken on student activity fees is "scaring people off, that's why they're not running."

The survey is being conducted by administration to determine if students want the compulsory student activity fees retained.

Although only fived nominations had been filed with the SAC office at press time, more were expected to come in by the end of the day from the schools of nursing and possibly horticulture.

The five students running for SAC positions at press time were: Dennis Reeves, second year business administration, for president; Karen Dodick, first year nursing student, vice-president; Wally Winn, second year business administration, vice-president of athletics; David Parsons, second year business administration, convener of clubs; and Shelly Ward, first year interior design, for public relations.

There was a rumor that Jean Hatch, Niagara Falls nursing student,was running for president, although it was not confirmed at the SAC office. At the Jan. 22 meeting of the student body, Miss Hatch criticized SAC on the budget, pub-nites and the lack of communication between the main campus and nursing students.

Jerry said he felt the survey should have been taken before the elections so the results could have been known by the candidates.

"It was a poorly planned survey. If the survey doesn't go in favor of student activity fees, SAC cannot function. There just won't be a SAC."

SAC is considering making two proposals to the administration, Jerry said. The first would let the administration take full financial control. The second would have the administration take the responsibility of hiring employees for all SAC functions, with the exception of the executive, and take over financial control, while allowing SAC to allocate funds, he said. These proposals would be made only if the survey determines that student activity fees will be compulsory.

Polls on March 6 are to be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and ballot boxes are to be in the cafeteria, Hennepin Hall, and in front of the library.

Ballot boxes are to be placed at satellite campuses, including the two nursing schools, horticulture the theatre centre and hotel and food.

SAC will distribute own fees survey

By KEN BLAY

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) will prepare and distribute its own questionnaire on the future of SAC because it is dissatisfied with the one prepared by the college president, Anthony Manera.

The motion was passed by 22 people who attended the Feb. 26 SAC general meeting held at the Mack Nursing Centre in St. Catharines. The questionnaire printed in the Feb. 20 edition of the Niagara News and to be circulated the week of March 10 asks students to vote on whether the $35 SAC fee should be compulsory.

In response to a question, RickLudlow,vice-president of finance, said Mr. Manera's questionnaire is one-sided.

"Mr. Manera should have some concrete alternatives for student activities to fall back on should the student council be dissolved or receive limited funds," Rick said.

The SAC executive predicted a drop in student attendance should the student council be dissolved. Members said they could not see students coming to Niagara if no extracurricular activities are available.

The SAC executive plans to draw up its own questionnaire. It will contain a list of activities and ask the students to check what they would like and add others not listed.

Rick Ludlow said their questionnaire, which will be circulated after Mr. Manera's, will provide a better cross-section of what the students really want.

He said they will present their questionnaire to the Board of Gov Governors. Rick said the board will have to weigh both questionnaires and make a decision on the one to accept.

Student survey starts Monday

A survey to learn Niagara College student attitude towards compulsory student activity fees will be conducted by program co-ordinators among "among registered students only" in classes between March 10 and 14.

Cutbacks to be discussed at conference

Two representatives from Niagara College will be attending the Ontario Students' Action Conference at Brock University, March 7-9.

Jerry Dracz, president of the Student Administrative Council (SAC), and at least one other member of the council will attend.

Purpose of the conference is "to discuss post-secondary educational cutbacks and plan a province-wide strategy," according to advanced publicity.

The conference, sponsored by the Ontario Students' Union, will hold workshops to discuss housing, the Ontario Student Assistance Program and post-secondary financing. It is open to all students, faculty, staff and community members.

Jerry said he hopes to get some first and second year students from Niagara to attend, as all of the council members will be leaving at the end of this year.

KAREN DODICK
SAC vice-president

SAC in black?

The Student Administrative Council's (SAC) books may be in the black this year.

Rick Ludlow, vice-president of finance, told 22 students who attended the Feb. 26 SAC general meeting at the Mack Nursing Centre in St. Catharines that SAC may end its present term of office not owing any money.

Rick said barring any unforeseen circumstances SAC's bank account should contain $3,000 when the present executive leaves office. He said he was pleased since there was an $8,000 deficit when the executive assumed office last April.

Pubs out of the red

Pubs have been making money since the end of January, so there will be four more pubs this year and none will have to be cancelled because of SAC's deficit budget.

A.S. Manera, president of Niagara College, had "speculated" that the Student Administrative Council (SAC) might have to cancel pubs

SAC president Jerry Dracz said, "In the last four pubs we have made money and we will continue to make money." Therefore pubs will continue until the end of March when the new SAC takes over and the books for the 1974-75 SAC are closed.

Jerry attributed the success of recent pubs to cutting down personnel, selling only beer and increasing the prices.

EDITORIAL

It's up to you...

Students of Niagara College have been vocal in the past about disapproval of the Student Administrative Council. The recent petition to eliminate SAC caused a greater awareness of student dissatisfaction within the campus and its administrators.

The question of whether SAC should be eliminated entirely is a loaded one. Many students may be unaware of the alternatives they have, and the consequences of eliminating SAC entirely.

If a decision is reached to get rid of SAC, what will happen?

Each student will save $35 a year. In a two-year program, he will save $70. On a student's budget, $35 is a lot, and $70 is nothing to shrug at.

If students attend pubs regularly, they will save the admission, as well as the cost of drinks. The need to spend money on guest speakers, sports events, dances and films will be eliminated as well. Activities such as Winter Carnival will go and there will no longer be the cost of a yearbook.

If SAC goes, the liaison between administration and students will also be eliminated. The students will have no representation or government. This means as government is defined students will have no regulation or management.

Activities groups will be eliminated; the college could not afford them on an individual funding basis. The college is in a financial bind for operating and is cutting back in every way.

There are alternatives.

In the event that SAC is eliminated, individual activities could be run by students in a related course or program. It has been suggested that pubs could be run as a project for business students. But who would pick up the deficit if they failed? There would still be the need for an admission fee, probably much higher than the 50 cents now being charged.

Speakers could be presented as part of Canadian Studies program, but there would be no opportunity for a crowd-pleaser like Xaviera Hollander.

Clubs could be organized by those interested. But who would foot the bill? Each student would probably be expected to contribute. If not enough students cared to get involved, the idea would have to be dropped entirely. The Ham Radio Club recently received a $3,000 tower through SAC. Could students afford these luxuries on their own financing?

Teams could be established for on-campus activities only. There would be no intercollegiate sports. Would this affect the name Niagara has among other colleges? Sports is always a good form of communication and detente.

Would the lack of student administration affect student enrolment? Would students be happy attending a college where there were no, or very few, student activities?

Remember school spirit? Is it confined to high school gymnasiums and football games, or does it go further? It is a comradeship among classmates. It is a certain pride in the name of the school and the bond all students share when they belong to that school.

Why do people wear T shirts with Niagara College on the back? That is school spirit. It is as hard to define as patriotism.

What Niagara College is lacking is morale. A certain self-esteem and togetherness that creates a void in day-to-day activities and relations between students and administration. Would the elimination of SAC destroy what little morale there is, or should students try to work with a Student Administrative Council to make things better for present and future students? Perhaps the students enrolled at Niagara don't want a SAC but what about future students? Should students consider them in the decision to be made?

On what basis do the students here now have to complain about SAC when they take so little interest in its activities. Students rarely notice the good things SAC does, but are quick to point out what it has done wrong in the past.

The present situation concerning elections is a good example. Only five students allowed their names to stand for SAC offices and they are in by acclamation. Why were there so few candidates for election? If students feel SAC has done a bad job in the past, they must surely have someone in mind who could do a better job; or maybe they just don't care?

If students vote against a compulsory student activity fee, this in effect is a vote to eliminate SAC from Niagara College—probably the most important decision students of this college will ever be called upon to make.

For the sake of present and future students, they must think before they make a decision.

VICKY SCHMIDT

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Letters express concern over student survey

The Niagara News asked for a cross-section of opinion from Niagara College students and faculty on the administration's survey to be made March 10-14 to determine student attitude towards the compulsory $35 Student Administrative Council fee. The fee is collected as part of college registration and used to finance student activities.

Opinions of student and faculty were solicited for publication to acquaint students answering the questionnaire with the various sides of the issues before they were called upon to make their decision.

Three faculty members, two graduates, and the SAC executive offered opinions, as shown on this page.

Mrs. A. Fic

Mrs. Alexandra Fic, a political science instructor at Niagara College, thinks more Student Administrative Council (SAC) money should go towards "exposing students to a variety of things that happen in the Niagara Peninsula."

SAC could buy block seats and make busing arrangements to plays in St. Catharines and Niagara-on-the-Lake, Mrs. Fic said.

She also felt SAC could sponsor students to help out in the Folk Arts Festival in St. Catharines this May. This would be part of getting the students in touch with various ethnic groups.

Mrs. Fic thought that students are too one-cultured, and that SAC could help out in this aspect of their learning process.

"People who are mono-cultured are frustrated because they have nothing to compare themselves to," she said. "Other societies are not better, but they are different. We can learn from each other."

Mrs. Fic said she did not want to tell students what to do, but felt SAC "should open these options to students who want to get involved and learn," and if they did not work out, SAC could stop trying them. "This is one dimension that could be explored," she said.

Jerry Dracz

The Student Administrative Council government plays a very active part in the community of Niagara College. It supports various activities, sponsors many clubs, sponsors athletics with other Ontario colleges, establishes a close relationship with the school body and the administration.

All full time students at Niagara are being asked to complete a questionnaire being circulated the week of March 10. The survey asks the students whether payment of the $35 activity fee should be compulsory or not.

I feel you should be aware of the consequences of this decision to you, the students, and many who will follow you. Consider this question carefully in your mind before you fill in the questionnaire: "Student government works for you, the student. Who will take the place of SAC if the council is discontinued?"

If you vote Option B—for no activity fee—how can SAC plan any functions when it has no set budget? Without this payment, there would be no student government, no clubs, no responsibility in pubs, no athletic programs (but athletics might be paid by the Administration), no student activities. Think about it carefully.

SAC finances eight clubs from the main and satellite campuses at a total cost of $11,500.

The Amateur Radio Club with 20 members received $1,100 for equipment to operate.

The Hotel and Food Management Club with about 75 members has been allocated $1,200.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) received membership fees from SAC to join the Senior Chapter of IEEE and funds for operating expenses and guest speakers, about $500.

The Nursing Schools of 350 nurses received a budget of $5,400 for their graduation and pinning ceremonies and other functions.

The Photography Club of 40 members received $1,435.34 to purchase photographic materials necessary to operate.

The Ski Club of 189 members receives funds to cover guest speakers, T-shirts and membership and assistance with club functions.

The Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME), with 60 members has been allocated $685 for membership and operating expenses.

The Theatre Arts Club of 40 members, has been allocated $400 to purchase costumes and props necessary for productions.

At present, Pubs are managed by SAC and are a positive unifying force within the college as they are successful in getting the student and faculty together outside an academic environment. Without a student activity fee and SAC, the college administration would be responsible for Pubs—and might not want to accept the responsibility.

SAC also finances athletics at the intercollegiate level. We feel it is the responsibility of a college to provide an outlet for the student to continue his physical, as well as his academic, development. To date, SAC has contributed $15,000 for athletics and this amount will be somewhat higher as the hockey and basketball teams and some others will be in the playoffs. Men's hockey, men's and women's basketball, volleyball, curling, badminton, tennis and golf are all supported by SAC.

These teams are a positive aspect of College life as they provide a social outlet for the students and arouse school spirit and community involvement.

We hear much talk of student apathy at Niagara. SAC encourages whatever school spirit there is at this college; without it there would be none.

However, year after year, the students complain about SAC and it is time that changes were made. I feel it is important that they be the right changes.

If the administration and Board of Governors feel that SAC is incapable of running things, maybe it's time they took over financial control. If the questionnaire votes for tighter financial controls, I would be in favor of the appointment of advisors from the treasurer's office and the faculty to be involved in the expenditure of funds and the keeping of records.

I believe that in future, satellites should have their own councils to which a percentage of their fees would be returned for their own use.

Before you sign that questionnaire—think carefully.

The Beattys

As graduates of Niagara College, we were appalled at the small number attending the formal dinner-dance on Feb. 21. Three years ago, the ballroom at the Sheraton-Brock Hotel was packed. Why the change?

This year's dance was not a formal. None of the men wore formal attire (except the band) and very few of the women were appropriately dressed. It seemed more like a Pub-Night....

The formal event must have been poorly advertised; alumni invitations were not sent to correct addresses and some were never received. Somewhere the Student Administrative Council (SAC) has an alumni file of names and addresses. It should be used more often.

The members of your student council work hard to arrange social events during the school year. It is the students who have to make them a success.

Without a strong school spirit, not only do student activities suffer but so does the reputation of the college.

Many students don't seem to care about SAC. They feel SAC is an unimportant part of the college. If they think this then we ask them to imagine a college with no clubs, no dances, no pub-nites — nothing, except classes.

It is the entire student body which makes the college what it is! Don't let it be only a few who care.

Sincerely,
Richard and
Marlyn (Rogers) Beatty,
1972 and 1973 graduates,
Toronto, Ontario.

Phil Beswick

It is my opinion that a student government which has the active support of the student body is essential to existence of the kind of College environment that I wish to work in as an instructor. It is not reasonable to expect such an organization to depend upon soliciting funds from a transient membership. Funding must continue to be part of the fee structure if it is to serve its intended purpose.

A decision to cut off the fee support, to even hold a referendum as a basis for doing so, seems to me to be a cop-out. The challenge to the College is to see that there is valid accountability by the student executive of its handling of the funds. The satellite campus situations must also be resolved. I cannot see that a reasonable effort has been made to establish sound fiscal responsibility, and until there has been, there should be no further consideration given to discontinuing the fee structure.

The major responsibility for the present situation would appear to lie with the Board of Governors of Niagara College. It appears to be at their direction that our administration is in the apparent position of extracting money from the students as a condition of enrolment, and disclaiming all further accountability for the funds after handing them over to a small group of elected students. This group, the Student Council executive, is supposedly accountable to the student body *at large* for their expenditure of the funds. It would appear, from the stories in your paper, that the kinds of accounts that have been kept during the past two years have not provided the bases for meaningful accountability.

I suggest that funds should not be turned over to Council until a budget has been submitted to and accepted by the Board of Governors. Their acceptance should be based upon an assessment of fiscal responsibility. Can the expenditure proposals be controlled within the limits established by the funds available?

Once accepted and the funds made available to Council, appropriate accounts should be set up in the College accounting department.

[see Beswick on page 4]

Crafts, Films, Books, part of IWY Festival

By VICKY SCHMIDT

Marg Kennedy, 23, of Port Colborne is the community co-ordinator of the International Women's Year Festival (IWY) planned for May 2 and 3 at Niagara College.

She is a graduate of the social services program at Niagara College and is working as a community development worker in Crystal Beach while earning her BA at Brock University.

The planning committee at Niagara College for IWY is working on a publicity campaign with posters, slogans, brochures, radio and TV and newspaper advertisements.

"What we're doing now is priming the pump, and most of the intensive stuff will begin in the middle of April," Ms. Kennedy said.

There has been publicity for the festival on talk shows, in area newspapers and on local radio stations. Advertising within the college is under the advice of Marie Bramble, program co-ordinator of fashion arts.

Ms. Kennedy's involvement in IWY started last August when she began making proposals and trying to get support for her ideas. Her sister Joy is involved in IWY too. She is an "ombudsperson" and is training group leaders for the workshops which will be held in the IWY festival.

A craft show is planned for the festival with "a whole craft arts show right in the college." The focus will be on weaving, pottery, macrame, painting and sculpting.

A book or media show will high light women publishers and authors. This will be handled through the college libraries and agencies such as Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and family and child care centres.

Registration is one of the topics of concern for the planning committee.

"What we're doing is charging a registration fee that we think most women will be able to afford, that's $5. A lot may not be able to, so we may be asking women's groups to donate $25 to a fund to sponsor five women who wouldn't be able to come otherwise. We will also be reaching them through the Anti-Poverty Organization and schools. We want to stay away from a charity kind of thing. We can't say 'Oh, you're under privileged so here's $5.'

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"We need action," says Judith ...not more conferences

By ANNA COLLINS

What started out as a good thing has become, according to Judith Brooks, "commercialized." Judith, a radio-television student, feels International Women's Year (IWY) "will come and go and nothing will change."

"We already know what's wrong with the status of women," she said. "We don't need any more conferences about that; we need action."

Women's problems are universal and countries should change discriminatory laws especially those governing abortion, Judith said. Countries should set goals and work towards them.

Judith is the liaison between the college and the IWY planning committee for the conference planned at Niagara College.

She is also involved with the Women's Centre at the YWCA. She meets with eight other women every Tuesday night for a consciousness-raising session.

JUDITH BROOKS

"It started out as a seminar-discussion group. One person would research a given topic, give a presentation and then we would discuss it afterward."

"It changed because we became aware that we all had problems and it would help us to talk about them," she said. "Anybody can talk about anything that affects them."

Judith, 34, was married at Brock Tower two years ago. She and her husband, Charles Lee, wrote their own marriage contract and Judith kept her maiden name.

Before she came to Niagara College last year, Judith studied at Brock University for two years. She enrolled in the radio and television course last September.

She is an avowed "Trotskyite" and belongs to a Toronto-based Marxist group. Judith said, "I am a Marxist first and a feminist because of it."

People should be given the opportunity to find their own potential in the world, she said, and this is not possible in Canada or the world because of economics. Free enterprise demands a labor pool which, in Canada, comprises women, Indians and "other minority groups." These people usually remain unemployed but they are there if needed.

Outspoken on many things on campus and off, Judith says she has been told by some people that she is "too abrasive, too extreme." She does a lot of talking and "it's upsetting to people against feminism" but she feels she has to speak up when she sees something that is wrong.

"I just happen to be vocal about it."

She gets very angry about some people's reaction to her outspokenness. "They categorize you before you have a chance to speak. They attack persons instead of ideas."

She is writing her autobiography these days. "It's sort of a diary, very detailed even to the point of where I describe my bedroom and things like that."

She expects her biography will be a long time in the writing and in the meantime she intends to fulfil her potential in whatever she does.

WOMEN—'75 'WHY NOT !'

Instructor is IWY's college co-ordinator

By VICKY SCHMIDT

Hilda Holmes, 50, an instructor of psychology and human relations at Niagara College, has been appointed college co-ordinator for the International Women's Year Festival (IWY) which will be held at Niagara on May 2 and 3.

Mrs. Holmes has been appointed by the committee with final approval of John Giancarlo, dean of the School of Applied Arts.

HILDA HOLMES

Politics are one of Mrs. Holmes' main interests and she is a member of the Niagara Peace Movement. She has experience in organizing conferences of this type and assisted in a community seminar on inflation last November. She was on a committee to organize a peace movement conference in October, 1974.

She feels the reason she was picked as co-ordinator for IWY is, "I'm primarily responsible for handling any community activities in which the college is involved. Second, that I'm a woman...maybe that should come first! Third, that I've had experience in organizing conferences.

"I'm getting my feet wet, let's put it that way. I think it's an interesting, challenging positio I'm extremely interested in the status of women and women's rights. I am basically seeing that the activities of various people involved fit into a well-organized pattern. I'm also attempting to get individuals and groups in the community involved in the planning process."

Asked if she was having success, she answered, "Yes!"

The planning committee is hoping to have day care facilities at the conference and an activities program for the six to 10-year-old group.

Invitations are going to Shirley Carr, vice-president of the Canadian Labor Congress; Laura Sabia, chairwoman of the Ontario Status of Women Council, and Judy LaMarsh, lawyer and former cabinet minister who is teaching at Osgoode Law School in Toronto. They will be asked to speak.

"We would like to obtain funding to sponsor students and women in low income groups who would find the registration fee most difficult to meet," Mrs. Holmes said. She was referring to the problem of financing the festival. There will be a $5 registration fee with rates fluctuating for children and students.

On the problems of financing some lower-income groups, Mrs. Holmes said, "From my perspective that would be rather selfish. I don't think anyone should be deprived of opportunities in life because of lack of income, let's put it that way."

There is no fee set for high school and college students as yet. "If we obtain enough funds we could sponsor them on a gratis basis," Mrs. Holmes said.

Mrs. Holmes has a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Toronto and a BA in psychology and sociology from McMaster University. She is married and has no children. She has lived in Winnipeg, England, Hamilton, and Welland.

K.Bray- a 1st in community

By SHEILA MACMASTER

A book of biographical sketches of women will be the Council of Women's contribution to international Women's Year, said Mrs. Kathleen E. Bray, president of the council.

The biographical sketches will be of women who have made a contribution to the City of St. Catharines from 1876 to the present. The council will work on it and, if it gets a grant, will complete it this year. The books will be sold and the money will go towards a project geared to women, Mrs. Bray said.

Anyone who knows a woman who should be included should send information to the St. Catharines Centennial, 1976, Box 1976, St. Catharines. The envelope should be marked "women". Not every name can be included but all information will be kept on file at the St. Catharines library and Historical Museum.

Mrs. Bray feels that as a salute to women's year, women have to do something as a group.

Mrs. Bray has worked for various organizations since she was eight. She began as the president of a girl's club, and at 15 was working for the Anglican Youth Group, working for them at the provincial and national levels.

She doesn't think she's "ever been out of office" and has devoted a lot of time to voluntary organizations.

She was the president of the guild at St. Mary Magdelene Church, Napanee, and was an executive secretary for 30 years, besides taking care of a home, and son, who is 25 years old.

She has lived in St. Catharines since 1957 and has been active as president of the Ferndale Home and School and president of the Greater St. Catharines Home and School.

She does not consider herself a women's liberationist. She has been a member of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE), and was the first woman to join the Quinte Stamp Club in Belleville. After Mrs. Bray joined, other women joined, too.

Mrs. Bray served eight terms on the provincial chapter of the IODE and as a member of the short story committee, "I had to read at least 1,000 manuscripts and marked them," she said.

In 1967 Mrs. Bray was co-chairman for the County of Lincoln for the centennial, being appointed by the province on a volunteer basis. She had to keep the people of Jordan informed of provincial government programs and disseminate information given out by the government.

Mrs. Bray is kept busy as president of the Women's Council and co-ordinating chairman of the local project for International Women's Year which is also the St. Catharines Centennial.

RESEARCH
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Learning English must come first—for anyone

By JOHN DUECK

ST. CATHARINES - Joyous laughter resounds from the classroom wall whenever a student makes a mistake in the question or in the answer.

The first assignment of this Grade 1 class is to say to each other, "Good morning. How are you?" The student is to answer, "Fine, thank you. How are you?" The question is often hard in coming; the answer is even harder to give.

"What day is today?" is more difficult. "Today is Wednesday," is very difficult so say. The third question, "Good morning. What is your name?" is confusing because some of the students do not know which of the four questions they have learned to memorize is asked.

"Good morning. Wat is y-o-u-r name?" Long silence. It is question No. 3, but yesterday it could have been question No. 2, so some are not sure.

"Vat is your name?" A long silence. No answer.

'V-er ees y-ur n-ame?" a woman asks her fellow student, who happens to be her husband. There is a long silence and a shoulder shrug. "I dunno," is the answer.

Question No. 4 is a bit easier. "Where are you from?" which sometimes comes as "Wat is your from?" It is a question students have been asked before. And out comes a long list:Italy, Syria, India, Quebec, Paraguy, Argentina, Poland, Lebanon, Greece, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Colombia.

The class are New Canadians in their second day in school in Welland Vale. Their teacher, Mrs. Lucy Carter, tries to explain English to them in English, and in five other languages when necessary. Already most of them can answer four questions fairly accurately.

Two weeks later. The students are able to read a list of 80 words and four short stories. Not everyone knows exactly what the short story says or what the words mean; nevertheless they are able to read.

Pronunciation is a great problem. Always sometimes becomes auwry, wool - wau, blood - blue, suit case - sweet case, language - logveech, and best becomes beast. But they are improving daily.

Students with a language totally different from English have the most difficulties. Not only is their language and grammar altogether different, but the alphabet has no resemblance to the Latin alphabet either. Most languages in the world are spelled fairly phonetically or totally phonetically, but English is not. In addition, students from some countries have different expressions for various acts and objects, and some have no articles, neither definite nor indefinite, and no prepositions. Instead of prepositions, nouns change their endings.

Expressions such as these, when anglicized from other languages would sound like this: open the light (switch on), close the telephone (hang up), she writes pencilom (with the pencil), give this pen teacheru (to the teacher).

Day after day these students go through the grinding torture of learning the English language, which has been described by a prominent English scholar as "extremely usable, concise, practical, flexible, and easy to learn."

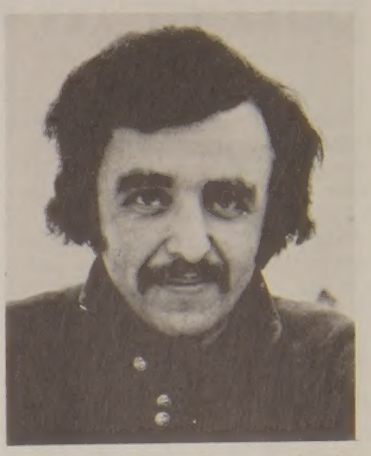
But the same scholar admits that English spelling is "awfully archaic."

Ask any student in this class about the most difficult and hardest language in the world, and there is only one answer.

After six weeks the students talk boisterously in English to each other. Their subjects range from the weather to hairstyles, fashion and even the "difficult English language." Occasionally someone whispers something to a neighbor in another language. It is generally overheard—because of the conversation in English all around.

All these students have left a life-long tradition, their country, their language, their friends, and their families to seek a new beginning and a new life in a country that is strange and totally different from their own.

Here are some of the students' struggles and frustrations, as well as their achievements and enjoyments.



There is always the exception to the rule, and that applies to causing interruptions in life also. At least in one student's case a man's life and work was interrupted by a woman.

Mgrdich Makdessian was content working as a welder in Syria. His mother, who had left for Canada two years before, wrote him about the wonderful country across the waters. Mgrdich left his job and his country, and now he is studying with his mother not only the difficult English language but the strange Latin alphabet as well.

Stephanie Smolarek, 17, came from Poland to her aunt and uncle in St. Catharines last year. She said she was greatly surprised by the way people dress here, by their hairdos, and by the way everything is done.

Asked about Canada as a country, Stephanie said, "I can't describe it. Everything is strange. Even the wind is strange. There is too much of it."

"I like people here and I feel at home," Stephanie said. "I liked Canada even before I came to the country. In my country I wanted to become a teacher, but here I don't know. First I must learn the language.

"When I came to Canada, at first I thought much about my parents and my family. But after three or four months I started to forget them. There are so many new and interesting things that I don't think of my family very often."

Cristina Petrocci,23, had finished her second year in university in Buenos Aires, Argentina, majoring in psychology. Then a young man, who had been in Canada for three years, came back to Argentina to look for a wife.

Cristina gave up her homeland, her friends, her studies, and her profession to follow a man to a strange and remote foreign country.

"I like Canada," Cristina said. "It is a nice country. When I have learned enough English I would like to work in an office or as a secretary."

It is difficult to estimate how many men have interfered in women's lives, prevented their education, interrupted their profession, or caused them to move to far away, strange places, but there seems to be no end to it. And even Canada is no exception.

Jeannette Francoeur, 28, born in Chandler, Que., held a good job at the telephone company, when a young man from St. Catharines found her, or she found him. The problem for this man was the distance and the two agreed that the problem could be solved only one way. Jeannette gave up her job, la belle province, her musical language, and now is struggling with the rest of the immigrants in saying, "Good morning. We-re a-re y-ou from?"

Being an immigrant and not able to speak English is natural. Being a born Canadian and not able to speak English is something that can be shanged.

Douglas Delaney was born May 26, 1958 in Niagara Falls, Ont. At the age of five he played as any other boy with other youngsters on the street shouting, "Come on, you guys! Wanna play cops and robbers? Let's go!"

At the age of 16 Douglas knew no more than a dozen words in English, and he decided to do something about it.

Douglas arrived in Canada Jan. 12 from Colombia, where his Canadian-born father had moved 10 years ago. The next day he was in school in Welland Vale trying to say "Good morning. How are you?"

Elvira Unger, 19, and her brother **Eduard**, 22, decided to study English together rather than fight together. They found Paraguay, their country, too hot and decided to come to Canada, a country which friends had described as very good. Elvira wants to become a nurse's aid or a secretary. Eduard would like to become an accountant.

Filomina Tota, 22, held a teaching position in Italy for a year when a young man came back to Italy to find a wife, after five years in Canada. And love proved to be "as strong as death" which "many waters cannot quench."

Filomina gave up her teaching and her sunny Italy, crossed the great ocean, and is now humbly taking the place of her students.

Phil Beswick

[cont. from page 2]

The College accountant should be authorized to require from Council the same receipts and supporting information for entries in the accounts are required from the staff for College expenditures (including personal expense accounts and mileage). Monthly expenditure-versus-budget reports should be sent monthly to Council and the Board, and be posted on the bulletin boards throughout the College. Council should be accountable to the students for what they spend the money on. They should be accountable to the Board of Governors for (a) keeping accounts which serve as bases for meaningful accountability, and (b) for maintaining plans for expenditures, projected to the end of the fiscal year.

P. J. Beswick,
Instructor,
School of Applied
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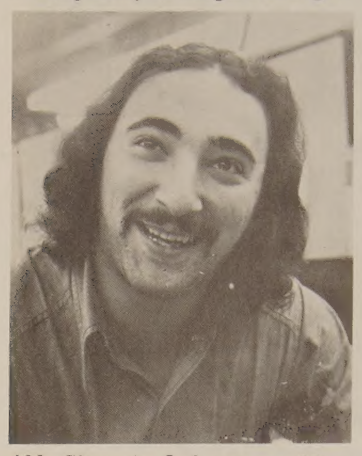
ROVING REPORTER

QUESTION:

Should athletics be made compulsory at Niagara College?

By

SHEILA MACMASTER and KEN BALDIN



Aldo Giacomin, 2nd year graphics

"No. I think it's up to the individual really. If he prefers to take any athletics let him."

Diane Dubas, 2nd year medical records technician

"Sure. Why not? I'd take it. That was the only thing I missed. I wanted to take phys. ed. but I couldn't take it because I needed a car."

Tim Waterous, 1st year general college

"I don't think it should be compulsory. The gym should be available for anyone who wants to use it. It should not be compulsory to the extent that one could not graduate if they didn't participate in sports."

Roger Breski, 1st year technical student

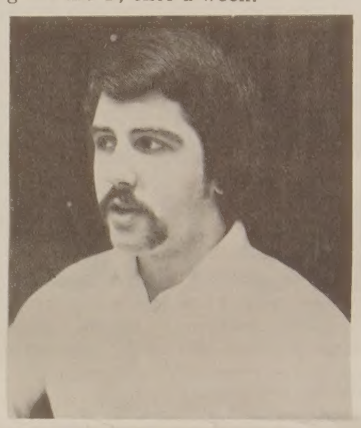
"No. Most definitely not. It would be too much like high school. Anyway, we get our exercise walking from building to building."

Bev Delaney, 1st year journalism

"No. I think it would be unworkable because those who weren't interested wouldn't show up for classes. There should be more sports for students interested in sports, such as jogging, and exercise classes, that type of thing."

Greg Miller, retail management, 1st year.

"No. I'm a member of the YMCA, and I use the "Y" a lot. It would be taking from the time that we have now. I'm not against it, I think it's good. I have more time at night to go to the Y, once a week."



Tony Capaldi, 2nd year mechanical technician

"Sure. Yes I would take part. That's what we need, it would bring us closer together."

Michael Oshaughnessy, 1st year mechanical drafting

"No. I don't think so. If a person wants to take it he can. He shouldn't have to."

MORE SPORTS SEE PAGE 7

Compulsory athletics at Niagara draw a variety of opinions

By KEN BALDIN

Should athletics be compulsory at Niagara? This is a question going around in administrative circles these days.

One man's opinion which should be regarded carefully is that of Dr. G. A. Alexander, college physician.

Dr. Alexander said he would heartily recommend a compulsory athletic program for Niagara, because of the general physical condition of the people he has seen.

"Better than half the students I've seen are in terrible physical shape," says Dr. Alexander.

Since starting at the college in September, 1972, Dr. Alexander has treated 1,223 people; since last September he has treated 261 patients, Marion Kerr, college nurse, said.

"The common complaint I get is tiredness," Dr. Alexander said. "When you look at these kids, they are smoking way too much. Many are chain smokers."

However, the college president, Anthony Manera said at an academic affairs committee meeting Jan. 9 that compulsory athletics would be inconsistent with the format of an adult college.

"Students come to the college as mature people, not under any compulsion to take any course," Mr. Manera said. "The compulsory nature of any advanced program would be inconsistent with the adult philosophy of the college."

G. A. Hamilton, chairman of the academic affairs committee, emphasized the importance of physical fitness activities even to the point of making them a prerequisite for a diploma. However, he wondered about the student reaction to a compulsory program at the college.

Peter Rylander, athletic department co-ordinator, thinks that if compulsory physical education did not go over well with the students, it would be because "possibly compulsory high school phys. ed. turned a lot of people off. But a college program would be based around the student."

Al Aboud, director of student services at the college, said Mohawk College has a compulsory athletic program for freshmen but did not comment on student feeling about it.

Even if athletics is not made compulsory, students should participate in some type of physical fitness program, Dr. Alexander said.

"If you are not athletically inclined," Dr. Alexander said, "you should make up your mind to set aside a half hour every day for exercise.

"And if you are too lazy for that, then watch what you eat. Cut down on high cholesterol and carbohydrates. If you do exercise, it won't do any good if you eat like a pig or have a cigarette afterwards."

Another facility available to help keep the student in good physical condition is the YMCA, Main Street, Welland.

Twenty-five memberships were purchased by the athletic department and any Tuesday or Thursday during the double lunch periods, the first 25 students there can use the pool or other facilities by just showing a student card.

Mr. Rylander said the memberships are used frequently, usually 15 or 20 on the set days.

SPORTS

Niagara Knights grab playoff spot

By KEN BALDIN

Niagara College's hockey Knights clinched third and last playoff spot in their division Feb. 15 when they defeated the Seneca Braves 6-4 at the Welland Arena.

Gary Nemcko got a hat trick and his two last goals of the game—the tying and winning goals for the Knights—also elevated him to the Knight's 100-point club whose only occupant up to now has been Bobby Kraliz with 143 points. So far, Nemcko has 101 career points.

The Knights started the scoring when , after two power plays had failed to click, Ron Sneider scored on a third power play, with assists going to Serge Boucher and Gary Nemcko.

Less than two minutes later, Angelo Spinosa scored from Dave Parsons and Bill Buckner.

In the remaining 12 minutes of the first period, Seneca scored three goals to take the lead 3-2.

The second period didn't see much scoring but good defensive play and scoring chances instead.

Gary Nemcko scored an unassisted goal at 5:17 and Jim O'Keefe got one for the Braves at 6:30.

With three minutes left in the second period the Knights had a power play going. Bob Tysen, Frank Buonocore and Gary Nemcko, trying to tie the game, each missed a chance to lift the puck over the sprawled Seneca goaltender.

Ed Sherwood made a clutch save against a two player Seneca attack, near the end of the second period, keeping the Knights in the game.

The Knights did the only scoring in the third period. Besides the two goals Nemcko scored to give him a hat trick and inclusion into the 100-point club, Frank Buonocore scored at 18:11, putting the game out of reach, 6-4, in Niagara's favor.

112 participate in carnival tourneys

Competition was at an all-time high within the college during the Winter Carnival Week's sports tournament on Feb. 16. About 112 people turned out to compete in the badminton, ping pong and basketball games.

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) organized the tournament sponsored by Labatt's Brewery and Chateau-Gai Wines. Mugs were given to the winners of each event.

One-on-one basketball highlighted the games with the audience yelling and clapping as Dan Hawylyshyn, second year electrical technician, won the event. This event consisted of one player battling wits and endurance against another opponent.

The winners of the mixed doubles in the ping pong games were: **Gord Cooke**, third year business administration student, and **Cindy Shanks**, second year general business.

Winners of the ladies doubles in badminton were: **Doris Masotti** and **Suzanne Brochu**, first year general college. The winner of the ladies singles is **Barb Jaraczewski**, second year general business.

Rudy Barrel, third year business administration, and **Rick Ludlow**, third year business administration and financial management, won the men's doubles in badminton.

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Niagara students enjoy jazz

By KEN BLAY

FABULOUS! FANTASTIC!

The words only begin to describe the Monroe Community College Jazz Band and Swing Choir Ensemble from Rochester N.Y., playing at Niagara College Feb. 25.

The band was on its fifth annual tour to southern Ontario. It was the second time it played at Niagara College. Bob Zajkowski, chairman of the music department at Monroe, said the band and choir will perform at Humber and Sheridan Colleges, the Toronto Institute of Medical Technology, the Royal Hamilton College and Nelson High School in Burlington.

"There is no music program at Monroe," Mr. Zajkowski said. "All the band and choir members are from individual courses such as nursing to police science."

Mr. Zajkowski said Monroe College is similar to Niagara in that it is a two-year school. He said the student population is transient and it is hard to keep the group together for very long.

Asked by Mr. Zajkowski how long he thought the band had been together one Niagara student said "a few years at least".

"It's been only four weeks," was the retort.

Mr. Zajkowski is assisted by Professor Charles (Chuck) Morey, director of bands at Monroe and director of the Jazz Ensemble, and Professor Lance Lehmberg, director of the choir.

The band and choir are versatile. They play and sing jazz, ballads, popular songs and "nostalgic" tunes.

Response by Niagara students was most favorable. Applause followed every number.

Diane Habeeb, a general college student at Monroe and choir member, said she was enjoying the tour. Meeting people along the way is what she said she finds most interesting.

The band played for an hour-and-a-half. Lunch was supplied by the Niagara College Student Services. Following the lunch the group headed for Toronto for another concert.

HOCKEY KNIGHTS LOSE

Niagara College hockey Knights played their last regular season game against the Fanshawe Falcons at the Welland Arena Feb. 22 and lost 10-5. The team hoped it wasn't an omen for the future; the Knights were to meet Fanshawe in the playoffs March 2.

"Grease ball" musician sings "At The Hop".

7 win awards from Molson's

A year-and-a-half of hard work paid off for seven graphic arts students, Feb. 19 when their contributions to the Molson's Brewery label and art contest took top prizes.

Object of the label contest was to design a label in a hexagon shape, suitable for Molson's Diamond Lager Beer.

Sixteen entries were submitted. Mario DeLuca of Port Colborne received a trophy, beer stein and $50 for his first prize entry.

I wanted to keep along the same line as Molson's labels when I started out. At first I didn't like my label at all—it looked so simple. But then I thought that maybe that ws what they would be looking for."

Glen Jackson won $15 and a beer stein for his second prize entry, and Al Klassen and Dave Kalinovich won gold fountain pens for their third and fourth prize entries.

Also judged were the entries for the photography art contest. The photographs were to illustrate a "winning" theme.

First prize went to Tony Adams, second prize to John Becchetti, and third prize to Glen Jackson. Prizes were the same as for the label contest.

Tony Adams said of his poster, "I took an outdoors picture and silk screened it. The only rule was to use an original photograph. I must have done about 50 in different colors, but I picked the red, white and black because it is so striking."

Three Molson's representatives were present at the judging, which took place in the faculty lounge of the Tecumseh Building. Gaye Stewart, district manager for the Niagara region, said, "They've done a lot of hard work. I've seen some tremendous ideas here today."

Frank Kinder, a Molson's promotional representative, said, "Molson's is interested in sponsoring contests like this because it is good exposure for our products. It also shows the creativity of the students and creates a form of competition, which is more interesting for the students. I'm quite impressed with what I see, it's good imaginative work. We would like to see this done every year."

The judges of the contest were: Mr. Stewart, Les Yares, Molson's representative, and Ron Gordon, interior design instructor.

The judges did not agree on the winners but they did all agree that deciding the winners was difficult.

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that's the life!

Molson Canadian
that's the beer.

FROM MOLSON'S – INDEPENDENT BREWERS SINCE 1786

A team of huskies added some excitement for visitors at the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa

Ottawa will remember Niagara students

By VICKY SCHMIDT

Niagara College students will remember their excursion to Ottawa for some time...and Ottawa will undoubtedly remember them too!

The trip was great fun, beginning with a late bus and passengers half frozen from waiting in the cold.

The arrival in Hull, Que., on Thursday Feb.13 was slightly less than mass confusion with 35 students in the lobby of the Sheraton LeMarquis Hotel, complete with luggage and other assorted trivia.

Dinner at the West Block Cafeteria in the Parliament Buildings followed. A tour of the library in the House of Commons resulted in a lecture by an over-enthusiastic guard who treated everyone like he was running an army. He explained to the group that "You don't need a college education, just hard work and sweat. You people don't know how lucky you are; how soft you've got it!"

He also had a habit of calling everyone "Sir." I had the unfortunate fate of getting stuck behind with him while the rest of my group left, while he told me all about the statue of Queen Victoria. This he managed to make into a 15-minute lecture in itself.

Most of the students on the trip had taken a government course of some kind, such as Government Operations, Law and Security, political science and municipal government. Teachers along for the trip were Dave Michener, government operations, Bruce Mulligan, law and security administration, and Gene Maltais, political science.

Sitting in on the House of Commons debate was interesting. I was very excited at seeing Robert Stanfield, leader of the opposition, in person, although he was very dull and didn't say a word.

Each spectator was equipped with a little receiver to listen in on what the MP's were saying.

After the debate, we decided to catch a bus back to our hotel. This took us one hour as we got completely confused over the numbers on the front of the buses, and the fact that there must have been eight buses going to Hull, all with the wrong number. We kept asking drivers where they were going,but their combination French-English answers left us completely confused.

Dashing across busy streets chasing after buses, huddling to keep warm in the -4 degree weather, and laughing so hard we cried, we finally got on a bus that took us to Hull...but not to our hotel.

By this time we didn't know where we were, and kept asking bus drivers "Does this bus go to Hull?" Little did we know that the reason the drivers looked at us as if we were crazy, was because we were already in Hull!

The "free evening" that followed lasted until 4 a.m.

Friday Feb.l4 was a maze of confusion too. Those who could manage to get up in time, went to the British High Commission in Ottawa. Those who couldn't, spent the morning sightseeing in Ottawa. The Sparks Street Mall, and shopping areas in front of the Parliament Buildings were interesting. I was fortunate enough to catch a view of a team of huskies pulling a sled in front of Parliament. It caused some excitement and the event was covered in an Ottawa newspaper the next day.

The next planned event, which we missed, was lunch at the cafeteria in the Parliament Buildings. We thought it was to be at 12 noon, but everyone had eaten and left by the time we arrived.

The War Museum was very impressive. It includes such relics as General Isaac Brock's uniform, complete with bullet hole, and Herman Goering's car, complete with five bullet holes and 18 coats of paint.

Friday evening included a tour of Parliament Buildings, with the rest of the evening again "free."

The morning of Saturday Feb. 15 we had a bus tour of Ottawa. This gave people a chance to see the outside of a lot of buildings. We saw the various ambassador's homes, and residential areas of Ottawa.

The eight acres of government land were impressive, with private skating rinks for the MP's skating parties.

Lunch followed the bus tour, and everyone met at the Lord Elgin Hotel before boarding the bus for home. Most people fell asleep for the better part of the afternoon. During the evening, the partry atmosphere picked up again, with songs such as "Old McDonald," "Row, Row,Row Your Boat," and various Beatle songs.

"Chuck" announced that he was having a party as we headed into the Niagara College parking area. Everyone split up into different directions, for home, or a party.

The trip was almost totally unstructured, with events left to the discretion of the students. People had suffered from acute confusion, frostbite, and hangover, but they were still ready for more partying!

No settlement in CSAO contract dispute

There is still no final settlement for the Civil Servants Association of Ontario (CSAO) contract negotiations for community college faculty, according to a notice by Craig McKay, CSAO executive.

The CSAO, which includes Niagara College instructors, has been without a contract since September, 1973. Both the government and the CSAO fought over the make-up of the arbitration committee, so a special ad hoc committee was set up in December, 1974. A $1,000 increase was given to instructors as partial settlement in December.

The ad hoc committee was headed by Mr. Justice Estey. Date for settlement was rumored as Feb. 15, then changed to Feb. 21. No date has been set and Mr. McKay did not know when the award bould be released.

"As frustrating as it is for all of us, there is nothing we can do at present. The award is entirely in the hands of Justice Estey," the notice said.

The contract being arbitrated will run from September 1973, to September, 1975.

Basketball Knights lose in playoff match

By KEN BALDIN

Niagara College's basketball Knights went down fighting Feb. 25, when they lost to St. Clair Saints 82-69 in the first round of the Ontario College Athletic Association playoffs.

Knights held the lead for the first 10 minutes of the first half led by the scoring of Bob Blasko, Rudy Barrell and Mike Soucie.

At 10:22 of the first half, St. Clair took the lead and though their lead was not very often more than two or four points, they held the lead for the rest of the game.

Half time score was 38-34 for St. Clair but after the second half started, the Knights paced St. Clair almost all the way.

A defensive lapse by the Knights early in the second half allowed a flurry of baskets in for St. Clair that gave them an eight-point lead. But by 11:47 of the half, Niagara had got back to four points behind. The outcome of the game was still in question with nine minutes remaining.

In those last nine minutes though, St. Clair poured on the scoring and had built up a 12-point lead by the game's end.

Bob Blasko, who led the scoring for the Knights with 20 points, was disappointed with the loss but said, "We gave them a scare anyway."

Rudy Barrell and Mike Soucie also played well scoring 14 and 12 points respectively.

All that's left for the Knights to do now as a team is to vote for most valuable player.

Votes were cast Feb. 26 and 27 with the winner to be announced at the Niagara College sixth annual Athletic Banquet April 10.

COLLEGE COUNCIL BETTER?

E.W. Morgan, English instructor, suggests that a "college council" involving part-time students and faculty as well as full-time day students mights be preferable to a students' council. In a letter to the Niagara News on the subject of the future of SAC, he added, "the availability of mature minds...might have a desirable steadying influence."

Ross and Harvey Beard building kites.

KITES: WEAPONS IN THE SKIES

By DOUG CALDWELL

There is an unusual war to be fought in the Dain City area this year. It is a war that has been conducted for four years now in which no one gets hurt or injured in the least.

The battle field is the sky and the weapons are kites.

Ross Beard, 21, second year human relations student, has fought in each war since its inception in March of 1971.

"I've been flying kites for as long as I can remember," Ross said, "it's really something to see a thing you've made fly so high."

On Jan. 26, 1972, Ross's brother, Harvey, flew a kite for what they call a "record-breaking time of 28 hours." Ross was able to keep his kite up for only 24 hours, but last year he was the champion of the war event.

"This event, which will take place in Dain City on March 21, is the most popular of all to the kite flyer."

The kite war is sponsored by Mabel Cryer's Hobby Shop, Welland. The store donates a free kite to the winner.

The war has a turn-out of about 20 participants who try to "cut their opponent's kite out of the air."

The kites are equipped with razor blades to cut the string of another kite to bring it down. The players are allowed to use 100 feet of string-no more and no less. The action involves straight manipulation and steering of the kite.

The night before the war all participants have their names drawn from a hat to establish groups of threes.

During the event the three people in a group are given 15 minutes to "fight it out." The winner goes on to fight the winner from another group.

Last year Ross attached razors to dangling hooks he had placed on his kite.

"It was so easy to cut an opponents kite that way that I won every match. But that technique is banned from the competition now because it's too easy to win."

Every year since 1971 Ross writes a paper which he calls "Kite News." He circulates it to friends and anyone interested in kite-flying.

The paper consists of "interviews with flyers, the different styles of kites, how good they are, what the best kites are and what kite-flying events are in store for the future."

Ross said the best kite is the plastic Sting-Ray kite which sells for about $1.30.

"The more expensive ones are usually too heavy and not as durable as the Sting-Ray."

He has built kites as large as five feet high and five feet wide with his own creative logos printed on them. He said his kite-flying friends always paint designs or initials on their kites. This is for identification purposes while flying the kite with others.

"I'd like to see more people getting involved with flying," Ross said, "because it is a relaxing hobby that gets you outside."

The best time for kite-flying is from January to the end of March.

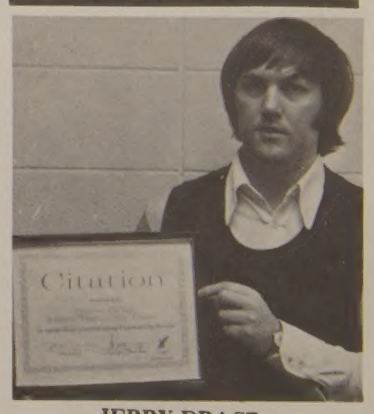
Niagara News has competition

Once again there will be competition for the Niagara News. The first—year Journalism students will produce one edition of the Niagara New Times for practical experience, said Bev Delaney, editor.

Last year the first—year students were bored with their spares so Austin Jelbert, program co—ordinator, suggested starting a paper to give them experience and prepare them for work on the Niagara News. The students put out two editions of HONC.

This year the computerized typesetter will allow four columns to be set on 8½ by 11 inch pages instead of manual typewriters and the POS, a photo copying system in Fasion Arts, will allow photograph reproductions.

Bev said, "I think they're working at it," when asked if her 10 classmates were getting involved with production. She said the main problem was deadline which was last Wednesday; only two stories were in the day before.



JERRY DRACZ

Niagara students receive award

Jerry Dracz, SAC president, holds citation given to Niagara College by the United Way in recognition of the college's support. Among the United Way Agency members are Big Brothers, Boy Scouts, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A. and 14 other charitable organizations.

LIGHTS CREATE EERIE GLOW

Floodlights set up in the trees and streetlights from nearby Clifton Hill give this tree in Queen Victoria Park in Niagara Falls a ghoulish appearance. The castle in the background is really the Oneida Tower, partially obscured by the branches and the glare. Photographed at the stroke of midnight, the park seemed empty of all life, adding to the desolate effects.

Photo by Jenney Vinnick

50 attend Winter Formal

About 50 people attended the Winter Carnival Formal on Friday Feb. 21 at the Croatian Hall in Welland. The $15 tickets included wine and dinner.

Each couple had a bottle of Chateau Gai wine, salad, rolls, fried chicken, cabbage rolls and Polish sausage, sauteed potatoes, tea or coffee and cake for dessert.

The hall was decorated with silver stars and yellow moons hanging from the ceiling and a crystal ball hanging from the centre of the dance floor. The hall was, for the most part empty, with at least 10 tables set up and only about four occupied.

Among those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Manera, college president, Mr. and Mrs. John Giancarlo, dean of the School of Applied Arts, and two past presidents of SAC.

The Steve Boychuck Band provided entertainment which ranged from polkas to slow romantic ballads. Dresses ranged from long gowns, to hot pants and midi dresses. Most women wore corsages and the men wore boutonnieres.

First big scoop turns out to be just a drive to Smooth Rock Falls

By PENNY METZA

If there is glamor in the business of journalism, it is well hidden in the depths of Sheila Graham's hairdo and the blazing spotlights of television cameras.

But excitement - now, there's something to talk about. Although the job of a reporter never becomes quite routine, there are days when it becomes, well, humdrum, as the commercial says.

And just as a reporter says, "I wish something different would happen", it does.

The memory of a reporter's first big SCOOP must stay with him or her forever.

The memory of a scoop that was scooped right out from underneath this reporter will be a story that my grandchildren will hear.

It wasn't a story meant to be published, but rather a way of telling my editor, who is 160 miles away, that I was somewhat disgruntled by the outcome of the whole situation. Part of the helplessness, anger and frustration comes through in the story.

The rest of it is waiting for that next big SCOOP. And you can bet it will be all mine next time!!

KAPUSKASING — It started with a telephone call.

But then in the newspaper business it usually does.

Did I want a scoop, my source asked? There was a train derailed at mileage 86. No one else knew about it yet.

A quick inspection of the map showed Foxville was the closest village to the train. And Foxville was north of Fraserdale and the end of the road.

Adding to the excitement was a report that a fuel car had tipped and was spilling oil. A fire was burning.

At first the news item didn't seem too 'big!' Then it sank in.

A train...off the track...fire burning...persons injured. And best of all there was a chance no-one else knew of it!!

As a relatively (although I never admit it) 'green' reporter I obeyed my first instinct. Call for help.

GO TO SCENE

Check with the police, the office in Timmins said. Find out when an officer will go to the scene and arrange to go with him. And dress warmly.

Oboy, my first big exciting story.

And my first disappointment of what turned out to be a long night.

The police at Smooth Rock Falls had been to the scene and would not return to the derailment until the next day at the earliest.

In the meantime, Timmins was working on the story from that end. They had learned that an ONR work train was leaving Cochrane to go to the scene.

If possible, Timmins said, I was to drive to Fraserdale and catch the train there. And dress warmly.

Office staff in Kap repeatedly told me I was crazy to even think of going. It was a rough road they said. You shouldn't travel alone. And if you do, dress warmly.

Luckily I didn't have time to think or I probably would have agreed. Even right now I'm not too sure where Fraserdale is.

I dashed through the office, grabbed film, my camera, and some money and raced out the back door hoping the car had no flat tires.

ICY ROADS

It had been snowing for several hours and the roads were becoming snow-covered and icy.

I slid down the highway peering into my rear view mirror wondering if a police officer who stopped me for speeding would understand if I told him I was trying to catch a train that had fallen off the track!!

As I drove carefully, if a little too quickly, I mentally listed all the items I knew I should have.

I had a camera, the flash, several rolls of film, and pencils because "pens don't work in the cold" one of my wiser counterparts told me.

And yes I did have warm clothes.

I panicked. I suddenly realized I had forgotten my notebook.

Well, it was too late and anyway it was Wednesday; most of the stores were closed.

Through the mist of fine snow I could see an oil truck in front of me. Visibility in front of me, behind him, and alongside both of us was practically nil. I didn't dare pass.

It took over an hour to reach Smooth Rock Falls. I stopped at the OPP office and began a ritual of phone calls that must have startled the operator.

First I called long distance information. Next I called the number. There was either no answer or the person I wished to speak to could be reached at another number, always long distance.

After several calls I learned the train was still in Cochrane and would not be in Fraserdale for several hours. That left ample time for me to get there.

I called my boss (at home) to tell him I was going to stop the train in Fraserdale but would need special permission through the paper signing a liability release.

DISAPPOINTMENT

I was jolted with a second disappointment. Another reporter from Timmins was in Cochrane and would board the train.

It hardly seemed fair.

Grudgingly I spoke to the other reporter, wished him luck and told him to call if he needed help.

I was just about to leave Smooth Rock when the phone rang. He was unable to get on the train.

Here we go again I thought to myself. I started the phone calls again. By this time the operators knew who I was, what number I wanted the call charged to and the number I was calling from.

After several futile calls I finally spoke to the ONR superintendent.

He was sorry he said but no-one except employees of ONR was allowed on that train.

I asked him for a job.

Dejectedly, I returned to Kap disappointed, frustrated and angry.

And that, I thought, is the end of that good story.

NOT FINISHED

But it wasn't. I chuckled with glee the next morning when I learned my reporter had indeed made it to the scene. By snowmobile no less.

Now that's a story!

Folksingers enjoyable despite poor conditions

By GARY SCHNEIDER

Despite poor sound conditions, the music in the Niagara College cafeteria Feb. 20, performed by Clay Carter and Rick Bauer, was very enjoyable.

Clay was brought to the college by the Student Administrative Council (SAC) as part of Winter Carnival week. He had played a concert at Brock University on Feb. 7.

Rick, a second year Theatre Arts student, alternated sets with Clay.

The sound system was not set up in time and Clay remarked that "cafeterias seem, for some reason, to be the hardest places to play."

The cement walls and steel beams in the cafeteria detracted from the performances, as did the loud noises coming from some of the students as they ate their lunches or played cards.

Two extra microphones were set up for the first half hour to enable first year radio and television students to tape and film the performance. This caused some difficulties, as the excess microphones hindered the sound people in achieving a proper balance between voice and guitar.

Most of Clay's songs were his own compositions, and demonstrated both strong feelings and light ideas.

"I do my own songs for a purpose," he said. "Other people's songs are good, but doing your own music is easier."

Originally from Ottawa, Clay lived in England for four years, travelled around the world for a year, and is now living in London, Ont.

He played for two sets, totalling about an hour of easy listening. Asked what kind of music he played Clay avoided trying to classify it.

"I don't know if it's folk or not. Music and art are kind of mixed up now anyway."

When he did music written by other people, Clay was also good. He did an excellent rendition of Valdy's "Play Me a Rock'n'Roll Song,' which sort of fitted into the scene. The song is about a folk singer who plays at a concert where everyone is yelling for rock'n'roll songs. The clashing of plates, knives and forks and the loud yelling did not add anything to Clay's performance.

CLAY CARTER

But the pitfalls of playing in the cafeteria did not affect his attitude towards Niagara.

"I really like the school and the kids," he said. "You can just look around and see what type of people they are."

Rick, who is 21, also played two sets, including three songs that he played while Clay was on stage.

Some of his songs were his own compositions, many of them lively rags displaying good guitar work.

He played a lot of songs by John Prine, which were easily recognized by those students still left after the end of the double lunch hour.

With the type of music being played, the Hamilton room would have been a much more suitable place for the performances, but the songs were still enjoyable to those who took the time to listen.

STUDENT IN KAPUSKASING

Ken Baldin, a second year journalism student, is in Kapuskasing for two weeks to help cover the Winter Carnival for the Timmins Daily Press. He left March 1 to help report on the three-day event, and other news. The Kapuskasing bureau manager for the Timmins paper is Penny Metza.

Secretaries will not move

Secretarial programs will not be transferred to Welland Vale, A.S. Manera, college president said.

A committee set up to study the possible transfer of all secretarial programs to Welland Vale has reported there would be more disadvantages than advantages.

The primary problem would be one of transportation for students, Mr. Manera said.

The committee recommended the college continue with the present arrangement, Mr. Manera accepted the recommendation.

The committee was made up of five people from the Welland campus and Welland Vale.

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